

FEBRUARY 10, 2015

**CITY OF GUNNISON COUNCIL
REGULAR SESSION MEETING MINUTES**

7:00 P.M.

Following a Work Session meeting, the City Council Regular Session meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M., by Mayor Drexel, with Councilors Riggs, Ferguson, Steinbeck and Hagan present along with City Attorney Fogo, City Manager Coleman, City Clerk Davidson, Finance Director Cowan, WSCU student Ben Wright, several citizens and the press. A Council quorum was present.

Mayor Drexel introduced Dr. Kevin Nelson and Boy Scout Troop #470 who were in attendance. Dr. Nelson explained that the Scouts are working on their “Citizenship in the Community” merit badges, and one requirement is to attend a community government meeting. Council welcomed and thanked the Scouts for attending.

Consideration of Minutes:

Regular Session Meeting Minutes of January 27, 2015.

Councilor Steinbeck moved and Councilor Hagan seconded the motion to approve the Regular Session Meeting minutes of January 27, 2015, as submitted.

Roll call vote, yes: Riggs, Ferguson, Drexel, Steinbeck, Hagan. So carried.

Roll call vote, no: None.

Unfinished Business: None.

Pre-Scheduled Citizens: None.

New Business: None.

Ordinance and Resolutions: None.

City Attorney Kathleen Fogo: No report this evening.

City Manager: Ken Coleman: informed Council of the following items: there was a meeting with representatives of the “Boomers & Beyond” group, and future operations at the Community Center were discussed; membership rates, scheduling, and potential revenues were discussed, and although the seniors have the primary use they need to schedule the facility use in advance; if the facility is then available, it can be rented out for other uses; the annual senior membership is \$77.00 per year per senior, and this equates to only approximately \$10,000 revenue for the City each year to pay of utilities, cleaning, maintenance and other similar expenses; several misunderstandings between the City and the seniors were cleared up at the meeting; the City Manager also attended the Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) meeting where that group discussed several topics including a \$25,000 “Safe Routes to Schools” Grant that was received. Discussion ensued on the grant. The focus of the funds will be on educational outreach to the schools on pedestrian and bicycle safety. The school PE classes will be utilized for the outreach. The BPAC group is looking at ways to infuse more excitement and to incorporate older young people to be safety mentors to the younger students. Councilor Riggs asked about outreach to Western students. City Manager Coleman stated that Dave Wiens and Gary Pierson from Western are involved in the discussions. One possibility is to provide bicycle safety lighting for Western students. BPAC also talked about implementing bike helmet regulations but recognized that enforcement is a challenge. The City Manager stated that incentives are more effective than enforcing regulations. He then informed Council that there has been some conflict between Nordic skiing and fat biking usage on the set Nordic tracks. This discussion involves the set Nordic tracks at Hartman Rocks, the VanTuyl Ranch, Jorgensen Park and the University fields. Since Hartman Rocks is a multi-use area, it is difficult to enforce only Nordic skiing on the set tracks. However, the City is looking at designating the Nordic ski trails on the City’s VanTuyl Ranch as no biking on those tracks. The City Manager has contacted the ranch lessee, Bill Parker, and they discussed not allowing the fat bikes on the set tracks. The City Manager will bring this topic forward to Council again at a future meeting. Lastly, the Streets Crew continues to pull snowpack and ice from the streets and gutters.

Acting City Manager: Community Development Director Steve Westbay: Not in attendance.

Finance Director Ben Cowan: Director Cowan came forward and thanked Council for confirming him as the new Finance Director. He is looking forward to working with both Council and City Staff. Mayor Drexel and all of Council thanked Director Cowan for coming on-board with the City and they look forward to working with him as well.

City Clerk: Gail Davidson: informed Council the audio/visual technology upgrade in the Council Chambers was substantially completed this afternoon. The video feed is not streaming at this time but should be in the next couple of weeks. Announcements will be made in the papers and on-line when that service is available.

WSCU Liaison: Stefano Ballesteros: was absent. WSCU student Ben Wright was present in his place. Mr. Wright informed Council he is a Student Government Senator, and is a Business Major and in Environmental Sustainability studies. He heard about Western through a WSCU Ambassador in his hometown of Dallas, Texas. In his Council report, Mr. Wright informed Council there will be a men's wrestling match on Thursday night and hockey games at the Jorgensen Rink against Ft. Lewis on Saturday and Sunday.

Non-Scheduled Citizens: None.

City Council Discussion, Meeting Reports, Items for Work Session:

Councilor Riggs: reported she attended the last Tourism Association Board meeting as the City's liaison. Interim TA Director John Norton made a presentation about the untapped biking market in the Valley. There are more biking-related visits to the area than skier visits. The new Tourism Marketing Board will be seated on February 15th. She also attended the WSCU President's Advisory Board meeting last Friday. President Salsbury spoke about the presentation that was made at the State Joint Budget Committee meeting and continuing development of Western's Strategic Plan.

Mayor Pro Tem Ferguson: reported he too attended the Seniors' meeting with the City Manager. City Manager Coleman reported the \$150,000.00 DOLA Grant Contract for the senior addition is complete and has been signed.

Councilor Steinbeck: reported the Gunnison Valley Regional Housing Authority meeting was once again canceled due to lack of a quorum. The Gunnison representatives have been attending the meetings. The local Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) group sponsored a \$250.00 grant application for the Boomers building project and it was granted. City Manager Coleman stated that without the support of the smaller monetary grants, the larger State and Philanthropic Foundation grants wouldn't have been received. He thanked the DAR for the grant. Councilor Steinbeck stated she received a call from a County citizen regarding the bad condition of the City Market/Meadows Shopping Center area roads and parking lots. City Manager Coleman explained that those areas are private not City property. He will get with CD Director Westbay to review the provisions of the PUD Agreement for that subdivision and to look for possible solutions. Lastly, Councilor Steinbeck asked about changing the name of Adams Street to Western Way where the street enters into the University. City Manager Coleman stated he brought that idea up to the University when the school name was changed from College to University, but nothing came from those discussions. The City was willing to make the change, but the College cited difficulties with printed directories and cost of changing stationery and advertising supplies.

Councilor Hagan: reported he attended the Gunnison Trails meeting last night. The Crested Butte Nordic Council gave a presentation on their programming. They too have issues with fat bikes on their set Nordic tracks. Unified valley-wide trails signage is still being discussed. He also attended the fireworks event meeting. The decision was to have the event at Jorgensen Park rather than at the WSCU bowl. There will be changes to the 2015 display to include music and shorten the duration of the fireworks to 15-20 minutes from 45-60 minutes as in the past.

Mayor Drexel: reported the Region 10 loan mediation process has been successful resulting in a \$300,000 cashier's check being delivered. He attended the Mayors'/Mangers' meeting last week. At that meeting Mt. Crested Butte reported it has saved money on snowplowing this year and is

now performing some maintenance projects with those funds. Western State is in the process of developing a program for recruiters for the University. Everyone will be an ambassador for Western. Mayor Drexel then reported he spoke with Dick Bratton. Mr. Bratton has been working with a developer regarding Urban Renewal Authorities. Lastly, all of Council is invited to attend the Rotary Club event on Saturday night at 5:30pm. Hal Yale will be awarded the inaugural Rotary Club "Service Above Self Award". The event is a dinner and scholarship fundraiser as well.

Adjournment: Mayor Drexel called for any further discussion, and hearing none, adjourned the meeting at 7:52 P.M.

Mayor

City Clerk